HOUSE BILL 1422 By Hassell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 23, relative to coverage for diabetes outpatient self-management training and education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 23, is amended by adding Section 2 of this act as a new, appropriately designated section.

SECTION 2. (a) On or after July 1, 1997, every individual, franchise, blanket or group health insurance policy, group health insurance plan/policy, medical service plan contract, hospital service corporation contract, hospital and medical service corporation contract, fraternal benefit society, health maintenance organization, and all other forms of managed/capitated plan or policy shall provide coverage for the equipment, supplies, and outpatient self-management training and education, including medical nutrition therapy, for the treatment of insulindependent diabetes, insulin-using diabetes, gestational diabetes, and non-insulin-using diabetes if prescribed by a health care professional legally authorized to prescribe such items under law.

- (b) Diabetes outpatient self-management training and education shall be provided by a certified, registered or licensed health care professional with expertise in diabetes.
 - (c) (1) The benefits provided in this act shall be subject to the same annual deductibles or co-insurance established for all other covered benefits within a given policy, plan or contract.

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- (2) Private third-party payors may not reduce or eliminate coverage due to the requirements of this act.
- (3) Enforcement of the provisions of this act shall be performed by the commissioner of commerce and insurance.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.

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